

VLR-6/19/73 NRHP-8/14/73

Form 10-300
(Rev. 6-72)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:
Virginia

COUNTY:
Middlesex

FOR NPS USE ONLY

ENTRY DATE

1. NAME

COMMON:
Deer Chase

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
.3 miles south of Rt. 629, 1.2 miles Southeast of intersection with Rt. 644.

CITY OR TOWN:
Stormont vicinity

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:
First; Thomas N. Downing

STATE: **Virginia** CODE: **51** COUNTY: **Middlesex** CODE: **119**

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Sits <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation WWK in progress	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

PRESENT USE (Check One or Afore as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious		
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Mr. and Mrs. Garland S, Sydnor, Jr.

STREET AND NUMBER:
8 Tapoan Road

CITY OR TOWN:
Richmond

STATE:
Virginia

CODE:
51

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:
Middlesex County Court House

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
Saluda

STATE:
Virginia

CODE:
51

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Survey

DATE OF SURVEY: **1972** Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

STREET AND NUMBER:
Room 1116 Ninth Street State Office Building

CITY OR TOWN:
Richmond

STATE:
Virginia

CODE:
51

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Virginia

COUNTY: Middlesex

FOR NPS USE ONLY

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Deer Chase is a mid-eighteenth century Tidewater farmhouse. Sometime in the second or third decade of the nineteenth century a major fire severely damaged the east chimney and wall. For this reason there have been a number of alterations on the interior, but the exterior, except for fenestration, remains substantially unaltered. After the fire, the east wall was rebuilt with the massive triangular chimney base being removed and a rectangular one installed. The first floor interior trim also was replaced. The window arrangement was altered and the windows themselves were enlarged.

The three-bay, double-pile, story-and-a-half rectangular structure is covered by a gable roof with clipped gables. The roof is broken by three diagonally sided gabled dormers on both the north and south slopes. The walls are laid in Flemish bond above and below the beveled water table. Queen closers are used at the corners and at the south window openings above the first four courses, indicating that the windows have been lengthened. A screened porch shelters much of the south side and the east end. An interior chimney with a square stack and corbelled cap is at each end. The windows and doors have plain trim with a beaded edge. Originally two windows flanked each side of the center doorway, but the fenestration was altered after the nineteenth century fire, giving the house its present three-bay appearance. The sash is double-hung and has large six-over-six lights. The dormers also have double-hung sash with smaller six-over-six lights.

The interior plan consists of a central hall flanked by a pair of rooms on either side. The stair ascends in a niche at the southeast corner of the center hall. The original stair was probably at the rear of the hall - a typical plan of the time. The walls and ceilings are painted plaster. Surrounding the four-paneled doors and windows on the lower floor is symmetrically molded trim with corner blocks and simple bullseyes. The same symmetrically-molded trim is used for the chair rail. The trim on the upper floor has a beaded inner edge with a molding on the outer edge, and is probably retained from before the fire. In the west rooms, the corner fireplaces have shallow segmentally-arched openings. The east fireplace is Greek Revival style with flanking columns, bullseyes, a molded frieze and a plain shelf. This mantel, which dates from after the fire, is probably of the same period as the other lower floor interior trim.

A three-bay frame school house with white siding and a center chimney stands west of the house. This outbuilding has recently undergone some renovation, and is, in fact, the only outbuilding left. The foundations and chimney of the office are the only visible remains of the many outbuildings formerly on the property. A rare and particularly fine example of a colonial corn crib stood at Deer Chase until the middle of the twentieth century.

Deer Chase is set in fields bordered by woods about a mile north of the Piankatank River. The house is approached through the woods by a winding lane.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian | 16th Century | 18th Century | 20th Century
 15th Century | 17th Century | 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Deer Chase typifies the small eighteenth century rural house once prevalent in the Tidewater region of Virginia. The compact, gracefully proportioned house was the center of busy plantation life, being surrounded by a complex of buildings sheltering many of the functions of a self-sufficient farming operation. The school house is the only one of these dependencies left. The visual quality of Deer Chase is enhanced by the maintenance of its pastoral setting consisting of level green pastures bordered by woods.

The beginnings of Deer Chase can be traced to 1685, when Oswald Cary received a patent for 460 acres on the Piankatank River. Oswald was the son of James Cary, a London merchant who had extensive trade with Virginia. This tract remained in the Cary family, descending largely through the female line, until 1799 when Cary Kemp, great-great-grandson of Oswald Cary, sold it to Philip Ludwell Grymes. The house was built around 1740, but the builder is not known since the exact ownership in that period is clouded by litigation within the family over the settlement of the estate of Cary Smith, a grandson of Oswald Cary. In 1811, Doctor George Dudley Nicolson purchased Deer Chase from the estate of Philip Ludwell Grymes. The property remained in the Nicolson family until 1906. The house was neglected for many years in the twentieth century until it was purchased in 1958 by Emmett Hoy who began renovation. Mr. and Mrs. Garland Sydnor obtained the house in 1969 and have completed the renovations.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission files.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	37 ° 34 ' 40 "	76 ° 32 ' 35 "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	37 ° 34 ' 40 "	76 ° 32 ' 18 "		° ' "	° ' "	
SE	37 ° 34 ' 13 "	76 ° 32 ' 18 "		° ' "	° ' "	
SW	37 ° 34 ' 13 "	76 ° 32 ' 35 "		° ' "	° ' "	

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 30 acres.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Staff

ORGANIZATION: Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission DATE: June, 1973

STREET AND NUMBER:
Room 1116 Ninth Street State Office Building

CITY OR TOWN: Richmond STATE: Virginia CODE: 51

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name _____
Junius R. Fishburne, Jr., Director
Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission
Title _____

Date _____

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

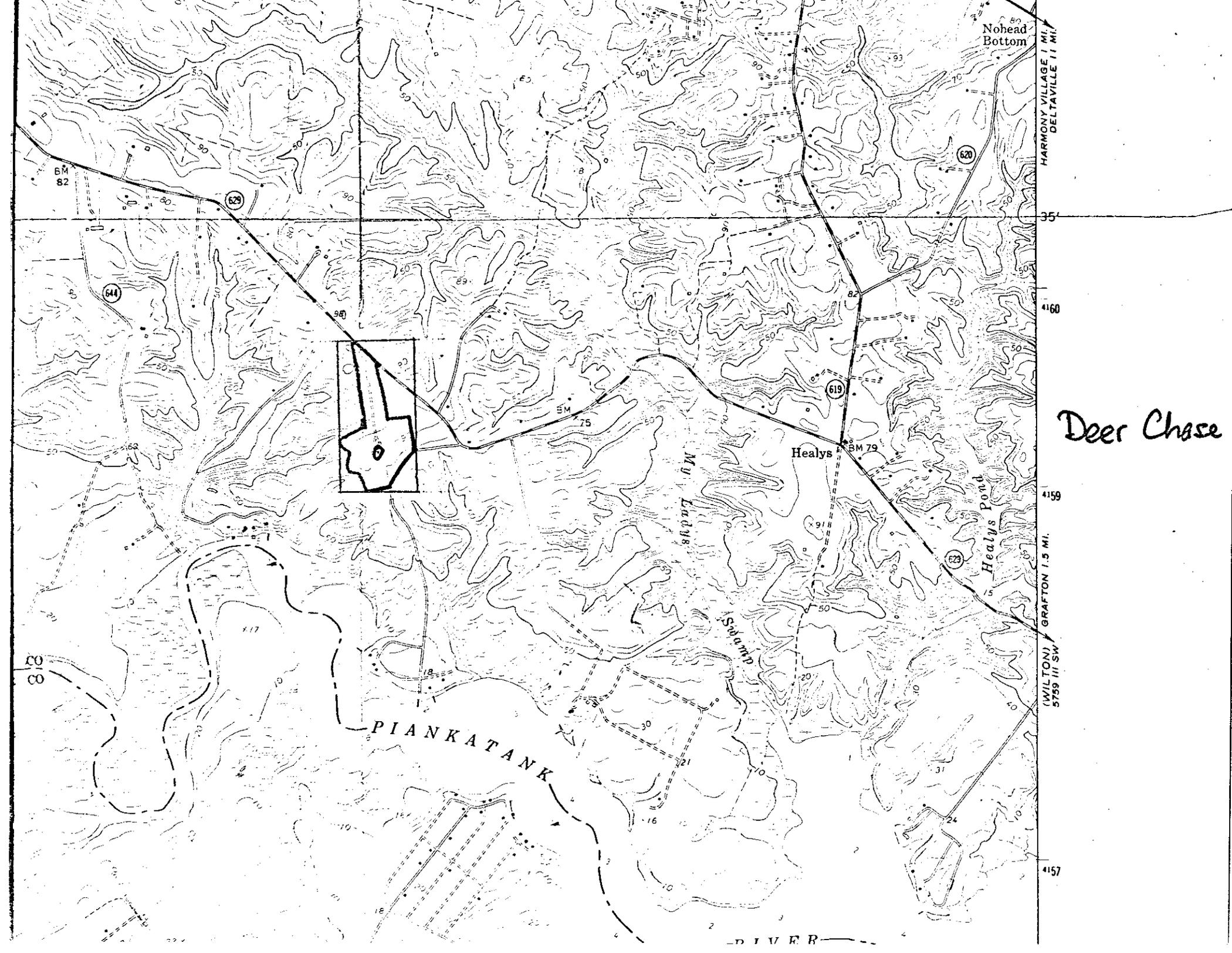
Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date _____

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date _____



Nohead Bottom

HARMONY VILLAGE 1 MI.
DELTAVILLE 1 1/2 MI.

35'

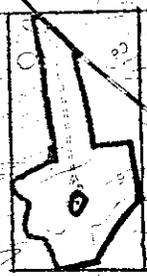
4160

4159

GRAFTON 1.5 MI.
(WILTON) 5759 III SW

4157

Deer Chase



Healys

BM 79

Healys Pond

My Lady's Swamp

PIANKATANK

RIVER

CO
CO

BM 82

629

644

98

BM 75

619

623

117

18

91

30

21

16

31

24

16